

Message Text

PAGE 01 JIDDA 04174 270457Z

14

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

----- 074131

R 261411Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5027

S E C R E T JIDDA 4174

EXDIS

DEPT: PASS DIA FOR VICE ADMIRAL DEPOIX ONLY

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: MASS, SA, EG

SUBJ: SAUDI AIR FORCE C-130'S

REF: JIDDA 3701

1. AS OF END FIRST WEEK IN SEPTEMBER, BOTH SAUDI C-130 AIRCRAFT (TAIL NUMBERS 453 AND 455), WHICH HAD BEEN ON DUTY IN EGYPT, BACK ON NORMAL RSAF FLYING SCHEDULE WITH SAUDI MARKINGS RESTORED. SINCE THEN, ALL SAUDI AIR CREW AND PILOTS (EXCEPT FOR TWO FLIGHT ENGINEERS UNDERGOING TRAINING IN US) HAVE BEEN IN SAUDI ARABIA AND ARE ACCOUNTED FOR.

2. EMBASSY HAS ALSO LEARNED FROM RELIABLE SOURCE THAT RSAF IS CONSIDERING SCHEDULING OCCASIONAL C-130 LOGISTICAL SUPPORT FLIGHTS FOR EGYPT. IN SUCH CASES C-130'S WOULD DEFINITELY REMAIN BASED IN SAUDI ARABIA, AND PLANES WOULD BE FLOWN BY SAUDI CREWS AND BEAR SAUDI MARKINGS. WE HAVE OBTAINED NO CONFIRMATION TO DATE, HOWEVER, THAT USCH FLIGHTS HAVE BEGUN.
HORAN

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED DIA.

SECRET

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: golinofr
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